

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Hungary/Rumania/USSR

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SUBJECT Danube Shipping

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25X1A

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

SUPPLEMENT TO
25X1 REPORT NO.

1. On 21 April 1953, two newly constructed floating cranes were observed at Budapest on their way downriver to their destination in the Soviet Union. They were constructed for the USSR at the Ujpest shipyards north of Budapest. They were numbered with Roman numerals VII and VIII. Each was 18 meters long and 12 meters wide and had a lifting capacity of five tons. The crane is electrically operated. On 2 May 1953 the same cranes were observed at anchor at Liubotina, Rumania. On 16 May 1953 two more floating cranes of the same type were observed at Orsova, Rumania. They were numbered with Roman numerals XI and XII.
2. On 7 June 1953, a newly constructed passenger ship, which had been constructed at the Obuda shipyards in Budapest, was observed at Drenkova, Rumania. The ship was on its way downriver to its destination in the Soviet Union. It was a side-wheeler steamship of 450 horsepower, 41 meters long and 16 meters wide. The ship's name was VJESLAV SHISHKOV.
3. On 4 May 1953, two Dnieper River ships which were constructed in the Obuda shipyards near Budapest, were seen at anchor near ~~Varadia~~, Rumania. They are about 40 meters long, 16 to 18 meters wide and lie about 1.20 meters above the water. They are steam-powered tugboats, with side wheels, of welded steel construction, developing 450 horsepower, with a bridge amidships and a stack aft of the bridge. The ships were named the VALERIAN and the ~~Valerian~~. The Soviet flag was flown aft. The crew taking the ships downriver to the USSR was Hungarian.
4. On 9 May 1953, a Soviet passenger ship which had been constructed in the shipyards of Komarno, Czechoslovakia, for the Soviet Union, was observed in the Moldova-Lubcova, Rumania, area. It was named the ~~Valerian~~. It was 75 to 80 meters long, 20 meters wide, had two decks with an estimated capacity of 1,200 passengers. It was powered by a diesel motor of 800 horsepower. It was painted white and flew the Soviet flag.
5. On 20 May, two Black Sea tugboats which had been constructed at Komarno, Czechoslovakia, for the Soviet Union were lying at Izlas, Rumania. They bore the names ADMIRAL MAKAROV and ADMIRAL NEVELSKY. They were also 40 meters long and

25X1

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25X1

- 2 -
Dnieper

25X1A

powered by diesel motors.

6. On 22 May, the same type of Dnieper River ship as reported in paragraph 3 was seen at Turnu-Severin. Its name was ASERSHINI (sic). On 13 June at Turnu-Severin two more Dnieper River ships were observed. They bore the names SMOLENSK and SVERALOSK.²
7. On 18 June 1953, a passenger ship of the same type as the [redacted] reported above was anchored at [redacted]. It carried the name of GRUZIYA.
8. On 28 June, near Moldova, Rumania, four Soviet river gunboats which were formerly stationed in Vienna were being transported downriver aboard a river barge accompanied by 200 personnel in Soviet naval uniforms. The boats were numbered 153, 156, 157, and 159. On 30 June near [redacted] Rumania, six similar river boats which had also been stationed in Vienna were on their way downstream aboard a river barge. Their numbers were 175, 177, 178, 179 and one without a number. Also aboard were three Soviet trucks, 1 radio vehicle, a small automobile, a generator vehicle, and 250 naval [redacted].
9. On 3 July near [redacted] Rumania additional Soviet naval craft and equipment which had formerly been stationed in Vienna was observed on its way to the Soviet Union. Aboard the barge were six river gunboats with the numbers 75, 122, 124, 126, 128 and one without a number. Also aboard were five radio vehicles.

25X1A

[redacted] Comment:

1. Possibly Liubovna, Rumania.
2. Could be either Sverdlovsk or Severouralsk.